



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

August 19, 2010

To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD – NO CONTEST PLEA AND RESTITUTION DEAL

On July 28, 2010, Richard Salas, a former attorney with the County of Los Angeles (County) Public Defender's office, was sentenced to 120 days of house arrest and five years of probation for pleading no contest to workers' compensation fraud and perjury. The plea deal included \$100,000 in restitution payable to the County and dismissal of the workers' compensation claim.

The potentially fraudulent act was identified by Tennenhouse, Minassian & Adham (TMA), the law firm representing the County in the workers' compensation case, who reported it to the Chief Executive Office (CEO), Risk Management Branch's Workers' Compensation Anti-Fraud Unit. The TMA team worked diligently to establish Mr. Salas was not as disabled as he presented. In addition, the law firm worked closely with CEO staff to develop a documented referral for presentation to the County District Attorney (DA) and California Department of Insurance (CDI).

Significant prosecutorial and investigative resources were expended by the DA and CDI. CEO would like to thank all agencies involved for their effort and expertise.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please have your staff contact Ellen Sandt at (213) 974-1186 or esandt@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:BC:ES
SEN:AR:AMT:mld

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
District Attorney
Public Defender

I:\RMB Secs\Board letters and memos\BM – Workers' Comp Fraud – No Contest Plea and Restitution Deal 8-19-10.docx

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

**Please Conserve Paper – This Document and Copies are Two-Sided
Intra-County Correspondence Sent Electronically Only**